

**South Dakota National Guard
Public Affairs Office
2823 West Main St.
Rapid City, S.D. 57702**

**Phone 605-737-6721
E-mail PAO@sd.ngb.army.mil**

**February 29, 2008
PAO 02-29A-08**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Local SWAT and Guard members train together

BROOKINGS, S.D. – Members of the 115th Signal Network Support Detachment trained with the Brookings Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Team at the George S. Mickelson Middle School last month in Brookings.

The unit members trained on how to enter a building with a known threat, secure the building and suppress the threat.

"It was truly a pleasure to have worked with the Brookings Police Department on this training mission," said Staff Sgt. Eric Kinslow. "Although our job focus is quite different, the basic concept of our job is the same by serving our communities and nation."

Soldiers became familiar with a variety of different situations and the SWAT unit members helped train the local Guardsmen and evaluate the Soldiers' performance.

Guardsmen will get another chance to work with the Brookings Police Department this upcoming weekend, March 1-2.

-30-

MEDIA INVITATION: Local media representatives are encouraged to attend upcoming training with local law enforcement and the 139th Brigade Support Battalion on March 1-2 in Brookings. Please contact Maj. Bob DeJong at (605) 696-5401, cell (605) 415-0617.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact Maj. Orson Ward at (605) 737-6721, cell (605) 431-8753.

NOTE: More than 250 Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard remain on duty in Iraq, Afghanistan and other areas throughout Southwest Asia. More than 4,000 National Guardsmen are serving in a non-active duty status in South Dakota and continue to provide support for state and national emergencies and homeland defense.